

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 056183

61

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-10 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSCE-00 /023 R

66614

DRAFTED BY: EUR/JLOWENSTEIN

APPROVED BY: EUR-LOWENSTEIN

S/S-O:MTANNER

DIST: NSCE

----- 022175

O 130155Z MAR 75 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL ASWAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS NIACT IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 056183

TOSEC-423 ATHENS DELIVER ASST SEC HARTMAN BEFORE DEPARTURE MAR 13

FOLLOWING REPEAT MADRID 1689 ACTION SECSTATE INFO

LISBON BRASILIA DTD 12 MAR

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1689

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR; SP; PO

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE COUP ATTEMPT: MFA OFFICIAL

DISCUSSES SPINOLA'S PRESENCE

REF MADRID 1677

1. MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS (AGUIRRE DE CARCER) HAS CONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS THAT SPINOLA, WIFE AND PARTY OF SUBORDINATE OFFICERS WHO ARRIVED YESTERDAY EVENING IN FOUR PORTUGUESE HELICOPTERS, ARE NOW CONFINED AT SPANISH AIR FORCE BASE AT TALAVERA LA REAL. AGUIRRE LEARNED FROM PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR (MENESES) THAT SPINOLA TALKED TO PORTUGUESE CONSUL AT BADAJOZ ABOUT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 056183

MIDNIGHT LAST NIGHT, EXPLAINING THAT HE HAD FLED

PORTUGAL BECAUSE OF THREATS TO HIS LIFE. ACCORDING TO MENESES, SPINOLA TOLD THE CONSUL HE WOULD LIKE TO COME TO MADRID SOONEST FOR DIRECT TALKS WITH PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR. AGUIRRE SAID AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH MENESES, BOTH AGREED SPINOLA SHOULD REMAIN AT TALAVERA, AND USE AS CHNNELS TO MADRID PORTUGUESE CONSUL AND SPANISH AIR FORCE COMMANDING OFFICER. SPINOLA AND PARTY ARRIVED BY HELICOPTER AT TALAVERA COMPLETELY UNANNOUNCED AND THERE WAS NO OPPORTUNITY FOR PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH ANY ONE IN PANISH GOVT, AGUIRRE NOTED.

2. AGUIRRE STATES THAT SO FAR MFA UNAWARE OF ANY REQUEST BY SPINOLA FOR ASYLUM IN BRAZIL OR ANY WHERE LSE. HE SAID THAT SPANISH PRESS REPORTS THAT GOS HAD CONVEYED SUCH REQUEST TO BRAZILIANS WERE SPECULATION BASED ON FACT THAT NEW BRAZILIAN AMB VISITED FOREIGN MINISTER CORTINA YESTERDAY EVENING FOR PURELY PROCEDURAL REASONS. AGUIRRE NOTED THAT REUTERS IN BRAZIL IS ALSO REPORTING THAT GOB HAS RECEIVED NO REQUEST. HE COMMENTED THAT GOS WOULD BE GLAD IF SOME FRIENDLY COUNTRY WOULD OFFER SPINOLA AND PARTY ASYLUM PROMPTLY, AS HIS PRESENCE HERE WILL MAKE SPAIN'S NON-INTERVENTION POLICY MORE DIFFICULT TO SUSTAIN. GOP, HE CONTINUED, HAS STILL MADE NO REQUEST FOR RETURN OF HELICOPTERS AND ARMS, AND HE THOUGHT GOS, IN INTEREST OF GOOD RELATIONS, WOULD TAKE INITIATIVE IN OFFERING THEIR RETURN. IN PROVIDING BACKGROUND OF GOS MAR 12 COMMUNIQUE DENYING INVOLVEMENT IN PORTUGUESE EVENTS (TRANSMITTED SEPARETLY FBIS), AGUIRRE SAID STATEMENT MADE IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ACCUSATIONS AND INQUIRIES IN LISBON AND TO SUGGESTIVE COMMENTS BY SOME IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF AFM/SPANISH AMB AT LISBON (POCH) ALSO URGED PROMPT STATEMENT AS HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT PROTECTION OF EMBASSY STAFF AND PREMISES AGAINST REPORTED HOSTILE DEMONSTRATIONS.

3. BORDER SITUATION STILLL UNCLEAR, AGUIRRE NOTED. INTERNATIONAL TRAIN AND AIR SERVICE HAS RESUMED. BUT PORTUGUESE STILL BLOCKING MOST OVERLAND TRAFFIC AT BORDER POINTS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 056183

STABLER UNQTE INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL ASYLUM, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, TOSEC 423, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE056183
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/JLOWENSTEIN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750087-0377
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750353/aaaabvuw.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MADRID 1677
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <10 OCT 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PORTUGUESE COUP ATTEMPT: MFA OFFICIAL DISCUSSES SPINOLA'S PRESENCE
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, SP, PO, (SPINOLA, ANTONIO DE)
To: ASWAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006